

## Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 L-01 OES-02 SP-02 PM-03 NSC-05

NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00 IO-03 SAJ-01 SAL-01 DLOS-02

EB-03 DODE-00 /051 W

----- 044190

R 171233Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1905

INFO AMEMBASSY OSLO

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 15654

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NO GW SV

SUBJECT: GERMAN SVALBARD POLICY

REFS: (A) STATE 225432; (B) OSLO 4220

BEGIN SUMMARY. FROM EMBASSY DISCUSSIONS WITH FRG FONOFF OFFICIALS, IT APPEARS THAT THE IDEAS ADVANCED BY THE FRG DCM IN OSLO HAVE BEEN RECEIVED WITH NO ENTHUSIASM IN BONN. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE INTERAGENCY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR NEXT WEEK WILL BE IN THE NATURE OF A SUMMING-UP OF THE STUDIES MADE BY THE VARIOUS AGENCIES ON FISHING ZONES AND RELATED PROBLEMS AND IS UNLIKELY TO PRODUCE ANY CONCLUSIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED THE MATTER DIRECTLY WITH VAN WELL, FONOFF OFFICIALS ASSURE US THAT WAND'S IDEAS (REF B) HAVE NO STANDING IN THE FRG AND ARE ASTONISHED THAT HE DISCUSSED THEM WITH EMBASSY OSLO WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS.

2. EMBOFF SOUGHT ADVICE OF DANNENBRING, DIRECTOR OF SECRET

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NATO AFFAIRS AND MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE FONOFF OFFICIAL ON

SVALBARD ISSUES OTHER THAN VAN WELL, AS TO WHOM WE SHOULD SEE TO DISCUSS INSTRUCTIONS IN REF (A). WHEN TOLD THAT WE HAD SOME COMMENTS ON WAND'S IDEAS, DANNENBRING EXPRESSED INCREDULITY AND ASSUMED THE INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO "KILL THEM." HE RECOMMENDED THAT WE DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH WOLFF, WHO HAS RECENTLY SUCCEEDED DANNENBRING AS DIRECTOR FOR SCANDINAVIAN AND NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS. DANNENBRING WAS UNAVAILABLE FOR THE MEETING WITH WOLFF BUT, BECAUSE OF HIS CONTINUING INTEREST IN SVALBARD MATTERS, ARRANGED FOR HIS DEPUTY HOLIK TO SIT IN.

3. EMBOFF BEGAN MEETING WITH WOLFF ON SEPTEMBER 16 WITH REASSURANCES OF THE IMPORTANCE WHICH USG ATTACHES TO CONSULTATIONS WITH THE FRG ON SVALBARD ISSUES, PER PARA 6, REF A. WOLFF RESPONDED THAT THE FRG CONTINUED TO SHARE THIS SENTIMENT.

4. EMBOFF CONTINUED THAT EMBASSY HAD ALSO BEEN ASKED TO INQUIRE AS TO THE STATUS OF FRG INTERAGENCY EFFORTS TO FORMULATE SVALBARD POLICY. WOLFF RESPONDED THAT FRG THINKING HAD NOT DEVELOPED MUCH SINCE THE BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS ON THE OCCASION OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY VINE'S VISIT TO BONN LAST MARCH. THE FRG IS APPROACHING THE STAGE OF ATTEMPTING TO PREPARE CONCLUSIONS ON PROPOSALS FOR A FISHERY ZONE BUT BECAUSE OF PREOCCUPATION WITH OTHER MATTERS THERE HAS BEEN VERY LITTLE MOVEMENT. THE DESK IS NOW BEGINNING TO PREPARE FOR AN INTERAGENCY MEETING TO BE HELD SOME TIME AFTER SEPTEMBER 20, BUT THE MEETING WILL BE MORE IN THE NATURE OF A SUMMING-UP

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1906

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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 15654

LIMDIS

THAN OF AN EFFORT TO REACH CONCLUSIONS.

4. EMBOFF THEN NOTED THAT WAND HAD DISCUSSED WITH EMBASSY OSLO HIS PROPOSAL FOR SUPPORTING THE EXTENSION OF ALL OF THE SPITZBERGEN TREATY PROVISIONS TO THE TREATY AREA AND HAD INDICATED THAT VAN WELL HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE PROPOSAL AND IN THE USG'S INITIAL REACTION TO IT. WOLFF'S RESPONSE WAS THAT IT WAS DESIRABLE FOR EMBASSIES TO PUT FORWARD IDEAS, BUT THAT THE FRG EMBASSY IN OSLO HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS TO WORK ON A NEW POLICY FOR SVALBARD. HE ADDED THAT HE HAD NOT YET HAD TIME TO STUDY THE LENGTHY AND PRECISE REPORTS SUBMITTED BY FRG EMBASSY OSLO BUT THAT HE WOULD NEVERTHELESS WELCOME THE US REACTION SO THAT HE WOULD HAVE THAT IN MIND WHEN HE GOT AROUND TO READING THE WAND PROPOSALS.

5. EMBOFF THEN DREW FROM POINTS IN PARA 5 REF (A) TO REAFFIRM THAT US POLICY REMAINS ESSENTIALLY AS SET FORTH IN THE MAY 1976 AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE NORWEGIANS AND TO POINT OUT THE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE WAND PROPOSAL. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE PRESENTATION, WOLFF EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND COMMENTED THAT IT WAS SECRET

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OBVIOUS THAT THE USG KNEW A GREAT DEAL MORE ABOUT WAND'S THINKING THAN HE DID. MEANWHILE, HE WISHED THE USG TO BE ASSURED THAT THE FRG, LIKE THE US, CONTINUED TO APPROACH THE SVALBARD PROBLEM WITH SECURITY INTERESTS IN THE FOREFRONT OF THEIR CONSIDERATIONS.

6. WOLFF'S DEPUTY, WENTKER, EXPRESSED THE SAME ASSURANCES WHILE ACCOMPANYING EMBOFF FROM THE OFFICE AND STRESSED ONCE MORE THAT WAND'S IDEAS HAD NO STANDING. AS WOLFF HAD NOT MADE ANY COMMENT ON THE REFERENCE TO VAN WELL'S PERSONAL REACTION TO THE WAND PROPOSAL, EMBOFF SPECIFICALLY ASKED WENTKER WHETHER WE SHOULD ASSUME THAT VAN WELL WAS NOT IN FACT SUPPORTING THE IDEA. WENTKER WAS EMPHATIC THAT THAT

WAS A CORRECT ASSUMPTION.  
HILLENBRAND

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